



# On The Horizon – June 2025

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**IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:****EVENT:****DATE:**

Swift's Big Kick Off	May 30 – June 1
STEM on CAMPus – SE MO State University	June 1 - 4
June Roundtables	June 3
STEM on CAMPus – UMSL	June 4 – 7
Rock Climbing/Rappelling Training	June 7 – 8
Youth Aviation Day	June 7
Council Annual Volunteer Recognition Night	June 9
June Eagle Boards of Review	June 11, 25
STEM on CAMPus – Eastern IL University	June 8 – 10
National Youth Leader Training – Course 1	June 15 – 21
National Youth Leader Training – Course 2	June 22 - 28
July Eagle Boards of Review	July 9, 23
National Youth Leader Training – Course 3	July 13 – 19
STEM and Skilled Trades Camp	July 20 – 26
Camp NOVA Day Camp	July 21 – 26
Sea Scout Ball	August 2
August Roundtables	August 5
August Eagle Boards of Review	August 13, 27
National Youth Leader Training – Course 4, Weekend 1	August 8 – 10 (Both weekends required)
National Youth Leader Training – Course 4, Weekend 2	August 15 – 17 (Both weekends required)
School Nite to Join Scouting (Kirkwood, Webster, Brentwood)	August 28
September Roundtables	September 2
Challenge Course Orientation Meeting	September 3
School Nite to Join Scouting (Parkway)	September 4
Shawnee Lodge Fall Reunion	September 5 – 7
September Eagle Boards of Review	September 10, 24
School Nite to Join Scouting (Rockwood & Private schools)	September 11
Challenge Course Training	September 13 – 14
District Scouts BSA Adult Leader Training	September 14
District Life To Eagle Seminar	September 17
Venturing Fall Fun Rally	September 19 – 21
Cub Scout Mom & Me	September 19 – 21
Order of the Arrow Section G7 Conclave	September 26 - 28
Fall Wood Badge – Session 1	September 26 – 28
Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)	September 27 – 28
Climbing Tower Training	October 4
Cub Launch	October 4
Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)	October 4 – 5
Challenge Course & Climbing Recertification	October 5
October Roundtables	October 7
Scouting For Food Unit Bag Pick up <u>before</u> Roundtable	October 7
October Eagle Boards of Review	October 8, 22
Spookoree	October 10 – 12
Fall Wood Badge – Session 2	October 11 – 12
District Fall Camporee	October 17 – 19
Fall Fright Night	October 17 – 19
Scoutbiotics at SLU	October 18
Haunted Hayrides	October 24 – 26

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<b>Chemistry Merit Badge Clinic</b>	October 25
<b>E&amp;E Day at Ameren</b>	October 25
<b>Council Map &amp; Compass Adult Leader Training</b>	October 25
<b>Challenge Course Orientation Training</b>	October 26
<b>University of Scouting</b>	November 1
<b>November Roundtables</b>	November 4
<b>Skilled Trades Day at STLCC</b>	November 8
<b>November Eagle Boards of Review</b>	November 12
<b>Scouting For Food Bag Distribution</b>	November 15
<b>District Life to Eagle Seminar</b>	November 19
<b>Scouting For Food Bag Collection</b>	November 22

## **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

➔ **PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH ALL OF YOUR LEADERS AND PARENTS IN YOUR UNIT, AND HAVE THEM ALL SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THEIR OWN COPY HERE: <http://eepurl.com/Z-9Vr>**

### **June ROUNDTABLES:**

June Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The theme for the Cub Scout Roundtable will be “Write Your Pack’s Success Story”. The theme for Scouts BSA Roundtable TBD.

### **July ROUNDTABLES & “On The Horizon” Newsletter:**

There are no Roundtables in July. Likewise, “On The Horizon” Newsletter is not published in July. We hope that your units are enjoying the outdoors!

### **August ROUNDTABLES:**

August Roundtable will be at **Manchester United Methodist Church**, 129 Woods Mill Rd, Manchester, MO 63011, on August 5<sup>th</sup>, gathering at 6:30 pm, and the program at 7:00 pm. The theme for the Roundtables will be announced in the August On The Horizon, but there will be a focus on Membership (School Nights to Join Scouting) and Popcorn.

### **2025-26 Program Guides:**

These guides take you through recommendations on how to best manage Den and Pack meetings, Troop meetings, and Crew meetings for the coming Scouting year—loaded with information on having a fun Scouting program.

#### **2025-2026 Cub Scout Program Guide:**

<https://tinyurl.com/5n7xt4p3>

#### **2025-2026 Scouts BSA Program Guide (the flyer for Program Preview had an incorrect short URL:**

<https://tinyurl.com/bdea8pws>

#### **2025-2026 Venturing Program Guide:**

<https://tinyurl.com/39p7ra9k>

**IMPORTANT** ➔ Keep up to date with the “Guide to Safe Scouting” here:

<https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/toc/>

**Youth Protection Training is now “S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training (SYT)”**: See details under Training!

### **Range & Target Activities Replaced Shooting Sports Program:**

Per the Chief Scout Executive, Roger Krone, Scouting America has issued a nationwide stand-down of all Range and Target Activities across all councils and National High Adventure Bases. Please read our District Commissioner’s Corner below for more details.

### **Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5):**

As a member District within the Greater St Louis Area Scouting, we are 1 of 13 Councils that comprise **Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5)**, 1 of 14 Territories across the US. **CST 5** covers the states of Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska as well as southern Illinois, and western Iowa, and nearly all of Colorado & Wyoming.

For much more information please follow and share the following two CST 5 Facebook Group Pages:

1. Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (CST 5) with close to 400 members. For general information about accomplishments and accolades across CST 5, from the individual to units, to districts, councils, and programs please join Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 (NST 5) Homepage: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/924855562032311>

2. Scouting America Council Service Territory 5 Program with 500+ members

For Program specific information please join the Council Service Territory 5 Program:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/270021481844869/>

## COMMISSIONER'S CORNER:

Dear Fellow Scouters,

As I'm sure many of you have likely heard by now, Scouting America has issued a nationwide "Stand Down" related to **Range & Target activities**. There was an unfortunate incident on scouting property involving a non-scouting group. This means that all shooting sports at the Unit, District, and Council level—archery, BB guns, rifle shooting, shotgun shooting, and pistol shooting—has been placed on hold.

As you know, Scouting America places a huge emphasis on Safe Scouting and Safeguarding Youth. We want all of our participants to have both a fun and safe time. We are hopeful that the Stand Down will be over by the time that summer camps and high adventure activities get started in coming weeks. However, please note that your youth may need to consider alternative activities. We will keep you updated as we have more information available. We hope that you have a wonderful and safe camping season this summer.

Yours in Scouting,

Joseph P. "Joe" Bradley, MD  
New Horizons District Commissioner  
Greater St. Louis Area Scouting  
[joseph.bradley@icloud.com](mailto:joseph.bradley@icloud.com)

## ACTIVITIES:

### Youth Aviation Day:

The Gateway Youth Aeronautical Foundation's Youth Aviation Day STEM Event & Career Fair will be held on Saturday, June 7, 2025 from 10:00 am – 4:00pm at the Creve Coeur Airport (14301 Creve Coeur Airport Road). The event will showcase the many career paths available in the aviation industry. There will be Aviation STEM Activities, guest speakers on Aviation Topics, Static Aircraft Displays, VR Flight Simulators, F-4 Phantom II Cockpit exhibit, and much more.

For information, contact [info@youthareofoundation.org](mailto:info@youthareofoundation.org) or call 314.399.9208

### Council Annual Volunteer Recognition Night:

Save the date for the Council Annual Volunteer Recognition Night, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, where the 2025 Silver Beaver Class will be recognized (location/time TBD). Of the 24 recipients, our New Horizons recipients are **Terry Flynn, John Murphy, and Edward Samuels**. For the full list of recipients and more information, visit:

<https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/silver-beaver-award/>

## ADVANCEMENT:

### **\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*\***

The new edition of the Guide To Advancement (GTA) is out and available now. Almost every section of the GTA received some minor or major revisions since the last edition. Click on the following link for the updated GTA. **Please note that the section pertaining to special needs has been completely reorganized and rewritten.**

[https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf?\\_gl=1\\*1dxgp\\*\\_gcl\\_au\\*NDI2NDg2NDEzLjE3MzQzNjA5MTY.\\*\\_ga\\*OTk2Mzg3NTY4LjE3MzQzNjA5MTc.\\*\\_ga\\_20G0JHESG4\\*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjEuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.\\*\\_ga\\_61ZEHCVHHS\\*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjAuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.&\\_ga=2.153025983.743099118.1734360917-996387568.1734360917](https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf?_gl=1*1dxgp*_gcl_au*NDI2NDg2NDEzLjE3MzQzNjA5MTY.*_ga*OTk2Mzg3NTY4LjE3MzQzNjA5MTc.*_ga_20G0JHESG4*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjEuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.*_ga_61ZEHCVHHS*MTczNDM2MDkxNi4xLjAuMTczNDM2MDkxNi42MC4wLjA.&_ga=2.153025983.743099118.1734360917-996387568.1734360917).

**The new Cub Scout Advancement program is in full swing!!** New Cub Scout Handbooks are now available at the Scout Shops! Updates to Cub Scout Advancement for the 2024-25 program year were posted here:

<https://www.scouting.org/program-updates/cub-scout-program-updates-announced/>

with more information here:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2023/11/16/three-things-from-the-cub-scout-program-update/>

Scouting America (BSA) has a monthly live chat on Fridays that may be helpful:

<https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/cubchatlive/>

**The Council office has moved to using Scoutbook to log Advancement. This will help ensure advancement is recorded correctly and timely. PLEASE BE SURE TO RECORD ADVANCEMENT FOR YOUR YOUTH AS IT OCCURS.**

- Regularly input advancement into Scoutbook
- Have the Unit Leader “approve” that advancement within Scoutbook
- Have the Unit Leader “award” that advancement within Scoutbook

Approving and awarding can be easily done within Scoutbook by regularly running a “Needs Approval” or “Needs Awarding” report where you can quickly approve it all. We’d really appreciate your Units staying up to date with this!

## **Logging “Service Hours”:**

When your youth and adults do community service, please be sure to log those hours using Scoutbook so that they may be rolled into the Council total – all service hours are totaled for the Council and then at the national level and are reported to Congress during the Scouting America’s Report to The Nation every spring. Each hour of Volunteer Time is currently valued at \$31.80 Per Hour!

## **Conservation Good Turn Award:**

Another of the awards our Scouts (all programs) and Scouters (yes, scouters) can earn is the Conservation Good Turn Award which is described here: <https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/conservation-and-environment/conservation-good-turn/>

This award is eligible for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing Crew Members, Sea Scouts, and Explorers, and the adult leaders of these programs. The Certificate Application may be found on the page referenced above.

## **Updates to Cub Scout Advancement for the 2024-25 program year are posted here:**

<https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-cub-scouts/> and additional information is here: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2023/11/16/three-things-from-the-cub-scout-program-update>

## **Cub Scout Resources:**

Are you looking for some great resources for advancement for all levels of Cub Scouts? Check out the Cub Scout Toolbox for ideas for dens and individuals working on Cub Scout ranks and achievements.

<https://stlbsa.org/resources/resources-toolbox/cub-scouts-toolbox/>

While you are checking out resources, updates to Cub Scout Advancement for the 2024-25 program year were recently posted here: <https://www.scouting.org/topics/program-updates/program-updates-cub-scouts/>

## **Cub Scout Advancement Workshops:**

We will be offering Cub Scout Advancement Workshops to help supplement dens to achieve their rank advancement.

**All future workshops will be listed here:** <https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/> -> Cub Advancement Workshops

## **SCOUTS BSA REQUIREMENTS UPDATES:**

### **Ranks:**

There are updates to the Scouts BSA Advancement program that became effective on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. There are minor changes to the Scout and Star ranks (#6). Note that the Cyberchip has been phased out and Scouts should use the Personal Safety Awareness training at:

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/scouts-bsa/>

### **Palms:**

Scouts BSA no longer have to wait 3 months between Eagle Palms – they have to earn 5 additional merit badges and live by the Scout Oath and Law.

**All the changes are detailed below**, including information on major and minor changes to merit badge requirements:

<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Advancement-Program-Updates-2024.pdf>

### **Merit Badges:**

Updates to Merit Badges took effect on January 1, 2025. These updates have been reflected in Scoutbook and on the online Merit Badge Hub (<https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/>).

21 merit badges have updates to their requirements. See the following link:

<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Merit-Badge-Requirement-Updates-Effective-January-1-2025-Updated-12-12-24.pdf>

### **BSA Test Labs:**

Scouting America has implemented something new – The *Scouts BSA Test Lab* is an exciting way to help in the development of fun and interesting new topics unique to the Scouts BSA program. The requirements for each badge have the look and feel of merit badges, but instead of a printed pamphlet, you will find links to digital resources to help you complete the requirements. If enough surveys show Scouts enjoyed these potential new badges and a badge becomes an official merit badge, Scouts will be credited with having earned that badge! For more information, visit

<https://www.scouting.org/skills/merit-badges/test-lab/>

### **EAGLE SCOUTS**

**The Eagle Scout rank process is described in detail at:**

<https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/> and click on the blue box “NEW HORIZONS EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATES”

**Eagle Boards of Review:**

**The Eagle Boards of Review continue to need additional reviewers!** Starting in May, Eagle Boards will only be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month. In order to resume 3 times a month, we need an additional Weekly Coordinator! If interested, please contact John Klos at [klos41@msn.com](mailto:klos41@msn.com) or (314) 640-1905 to *be a reviewer or coordinator*. Virtual boards of Review will be considered on an individual basis based on need and individual circumstance. **Watch for updates here regarding the Eagle Board Schedule:**

**To schedule an Eagle Board of Review, a Scout needs to call the Eagle Board Hotline at 314.384.2486.** Eagle Boards of Review will be held **IN-PERSON** continuing at Parkway United Church of Christ! Masks *may* be required by Parkway UCC based on current COVID infection rates. NOTE – CALL WEEKLY COORDINATOR’S CELL TO GAIN ADMITTANCE as the door to the church is locked.

**June 11, 25**

**July 9, 23**

**August 13, 27**

**September 10, 14**

**October 8, 22**

**November 12**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Scouts will still be required to submit their paperwork ***in advance*** which helps the reviewers to better help our Scouts. *Please use the Eagle Project Workbook fillable PDF below and email it when requested to the appropriate weekly coordinator.*

Links to the **most current** Eagle Scout Project Workbook can be found at this link:

➔ <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/EagleProjectWorkbook2023a.pdf>

The most current **Eagle Scout Application** can be auto-populated from Scout Book by clicking on “Eagle Scout Application”. The latest version of the fillable PDF may also be found here (***please do not search the Internet or you will likely find an out-of-date version***): <https://www.scouting.org/programs/scouts-bsa/advancement-and-awards/resources/> & click the link “Eagle Scout Application...”

**Eagle Scout Letters of Recommendation:** Reference letter requirements for Eagle scouts have been updated. See Section 9.0.1.3 of the updated Guide to Advancement:

**References:** Must list names and contact information for four people who are willing to serve as references for the Eagle candidate. These may be Scout leaders, teachers, employers, coaches, other Scouts, etc. References do not need to be 21 or older. **Parents and other relatives are strongly**



**discouraged** from serving as references. **The current unit leader and committee chair are not eligible to serve as references; their signature on the application is their endorsement.**

Helpful **Life to Eagle Resources**: The PDFs of the “Eagle Boards of Review – Roundtable Overview PPT” and “Life to Eagle PPT” may be found here under “Life to Eagle Resources”: <https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/>

## **Save the dates!**

### **Scouts BSA Merit Badge Skill Centers**

**Merit Badge Skill Centers:** <https://stlbsa.org/advancement-awards/> -> MERIT BADGE SKILL CENTERS

- Personal Management Merit Badge Clinics are being offered by Emily Worthmore. Emily is available to set up clinics at troop meetings or other small groups. If interested, please contact Emily @ [worthmore2040@gmail.com](mailto:worthmore2040@gmail.com) or 314-532-1003

### **Life to Eagle – Advancement Seminars:**

#### **September LTE Advancement Seminar:**

**When:** September 17, 2025, 7 pm **sharp IN PERSON!**

**Where:** Parkway United Church of Christ, 2841 N Ballas Rd, St. Louis, MO 63131

**Registration required:** Please register by September 12<sup>th</sup> (Registration will be available in August)

#### **November LTE Advancement Seminar:**

**When:** November 19, 2025, 7 pm **sharp IN PERSON!**

**Where:** Parkway United Church of Christ, 2841 N Ballas Rd, St. Louis, MO 63131

**Registration required:** Please register by November 14<sup>th</sup> (Registration will be available in October)

## **Eagle Projects – at Babler Park:**

The Parkway-Rockwood Babler Outdoor Education Center has several projects that would make great Eagle Scout Service Projects. Interested Life Scouts should contact Mike Dowell, Babler Outdoor Education Center Supervisor at 636.891.6681 to make an appointment to review potential projects. (Scouts need to have an adult with them on the phone or when visiting Babler for Youth Protection compliance.)

## **John F. Bild Eagle Scout Project Grants:**

The ***Eagle Scout Association of Greater St. Louis, Inc.*** (St. Louis Eagle Scout Association) may grant Life Scouts working on an Eagle Scout Service Project money to fund their project. Applicants must have received project approval from the District Eagle Scout Board of Review. Grants typically range from \$50 to \$200. The application process, application form, and directions for applying for a grant may be found here: <http://www.stlesa.org/Eagle-Project-Grants>

For other **Advancement** questions see the “**Guide to Advancement**”: <https://www.scouting.org/advancement>.

For the latest **Advancement Update**, visit: <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/SBSA-Advancement-Updates-2024-v2.pdf>. New information will be posted here when it becomes available.

Ruben Brill, New Horizons Advancement Chair, [jrb179@gmail.com](mailto:jrb179@gmail.com)

## **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math):**

### **It's never too early to plan for summer!**

#### **STEM and Skilled Trade Camp:**

This camp is an extraordinary experience for Scouts BSA, full of many STEM based merit badges, new Skilled Trades merit badges track, and over the top activities!

**Where:** Camp May at Beaumont Scout Reservation

**When:** July 20 – 26, 2025

Registration coming soon! (Qualifies for Second Week Discount of \$100!)

For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/>

**STEM on CAMPus (3 to choose from!):**



This is a unique “camp” experience where Scouts BSA get a taste of college life! Sleep in dorms, eat in the dining halls, and have fun each evening! Scouts may earn up to 6 merit badges! Sign up for 2 “camps” and save!

**Where:** Southeast MO State – Cape Girardeau, MO

**When:** June 1 – 4, 2025

**Where:** University of MO – St. Louis

**When:** June 4 – 7, 2025

**Where:** Eastern IL University – Charleston, IL

**When:** June 8 – 10, 2025

Registration coming soon! For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/>

## **Camp NOVA Day Camp:**

Formerly known as “STEM Twilight Camp”, this is an evening camp program for Wolves, Bears, Webelos and AOL Scouts featuring 4 nights of STEM for Cub Scouts to enjoy at Cub World!

**Where:** Cub World at Beaumont Scout Reservation

**When:** July 21 – 24, 2025

Registration coming soon! For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/stem/>

Other than **Supernova medals** which are only available at West Pine, all **Nova patches and pins** can be purchased at any local Scout store or through Gateway Traders [gatewaytraders.org](http://gatewaytraders.org). **NOTE: Starting June 1, 2025, all Nova and Supernova requirements will be hosted at <https://stlbsa.org/STEM/>** - They will no longer be hosted on <https://www.scouting.org/>.

The October Roundtable will have a focus on STEM and the new improved “STEM Nova Program”.

The New Horizons STEM Committee is seeking STEM coordinators in each pack, troop, and crew. If you are one, or would like to be one, please let us know. If your unit doesn’t have one, let us know how we can help you identify one. For all your STEM questions, contact Lisa Balbes ([lisa@balbes.com](mailto:lisa@balbes.com)) or Teresa Colletti ([tacolletti@att.net](mailto:tacolletti@att.net)).

## **DEVELOPMENT/ENDOWMENT:**

Check out **endowment opportunities** at: <https://stlbsa.org/give-now/>

### **Pro-Scouting Campaign:**

The Pro-Scouting Campaign is designed to promote opportunities which will directly benefit your unit and Scouts while also driving revenue for the District and Council. For Packs, the focus will be on Cub Camping - which builds memories and drives membership retention. For Troops and Crews, the focus will be on popcorn sales - which enhances unit finances and helps make Scouting affordable for your Scouts.

Scheduling a Pro-Scouting presentation and achieving goals related to these opportunities will earn your unit **free rank advancement** (rank patches) for a year. Pro-Scouting presentations can be delivered to your Unit (the Scouts) or to your Unit Committee. If to your Unit Committee, the presentation will be designed to give your adult leaders the key information and leave you with promotional materials for you to distribute to your Scouts and families. If to your Scouts, the presentation will be age appropriate and designed to promote the opportunities with your Scouts. Scout presentations are designed for regular unit meetings, and **NOT** Pack Blue & Gold dinners or Troop Courts of Honor. Both delivery formats should take not more than 5 or 10 minutes.

For Packs, the goal is for 25% of registered Scouts to attend a District or Council sponsored day camp or resident camp during the summer of 2025. For Troops and Crews, the goal is for 75% of registered Scouts to have an active account on the Trail's End popcorn selling app.

Signup for a Pro-Scouting Presentation <https://forms.gle/mkudDgBm6xzu9vcV9>

We have raised \$100,000 toward our 2025 Annual Giving Goal. Thank you to everyone who has contributed. Please consider sharing this link to our donation page with the rest of the families in your unit:

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/SCOUTS2025/NewHorizons>

For questions regarding the Annual Giving Campaign, contact Ted Slap at [tedslap@yahoo.com](mailto:tedslap@yahoo.com), Joe Neary at [nearyjp@gmail.com](mailto:nearyjp@gmail.com), or Nick Prainito at [nicholas.prainito@scouting.org](mailto:nicholas.prainito@scouting.org).

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## **TRAINING:**

### **Training Awards:**

Training Awards have been updated with revised requirements. We should all start using these immediately.

Awards Central: <https://www.scouting.org/awards/awards-central/> - Describes ALL Awards

Revised Forms: <https://www.scouting.org/training/adult/> - scroll to the bottom (Training Awards)

For more information or questions, contact Mike Edler at [pk310cm@gmail.com](mailto:pk310cm@gmail.com)

### **On-Line Training:**

Position-specific training is available at <https://my.scouting.org> as well as a myriad of skill-based virtual offerings (watch for Digital Duffle Bag emails). Take advantage of this time to review and complete your position-specific training. Remember, the Scout Motto is "Be Prepared" and trained adult leaders are prepared and ready to support our programs now and in the future.

### **Your District Training staff is available to answer any questions you might have:**

- Venturing – Chris Ford - [cfordmo@gmail.com](mailto:cfordmo@gmail.com)
- Cub Scouts – Ed Wilhelm - [edwilhelm@yahoo.com](mailto:edwilhelm@yahoo.com)
- Scouts BSA – Sophie Craft - [sophiecraft@hotmail.com](mailto:sophiecraft@hotmail.com)
- New Horizons District Training Chair – Mike Edler – [pk310cm@gmail.com](mailto:pk310cm@gmail.com)

### **Training Tip:**

Hello New Horizon Leaders. School is out and summer is beginning. You made it! And now the planning on next school begins. Make training a part of that plan. The fall gets busy with lots of activities but also a lot of new leaders joining up with no idea on how the program works. There is nothing scarier than face a bunch of kids and parents with no idea on what to do next. Let us help you. Anything from Den Leaders to Troop committee. No position is too small or not important enough that it doesn't deserve to get off on the right foot. The most important thing is the Scouts and how best to make the program active and engaging for them. New Horizons District and Greater St. Louis Area Scouting offer so many opportunities to help you do just that. I hope to see you at many of the upcoming opportunities.

Thank you, Mike

Address any additional questions regarding Training to **Mike Edler, New Horizons Training Chair**, at [pk310cm@gmail.com](mailto:pk310cm@gmail.com). For further Training information and resources, please see <https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/> and click the blue bar "New Horizons District Training".

### **Youth Protection Training is now "S.A.F.E. Guarding Youth Training (SYT)":**

Youth protection is at the heart of everything we do. Announced at the Scouting America National Annual Meeting in Orlando, the new Safeguarding Youth training is now live and mandatory for all registered adult volunteers. It is also a joining requirement for new adult members.

#### **Course Details:**

Duration: ~90 minutes

Available in English and Spanish

Access it through [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org)

Requirements: Complete all lessons + score 80% or higher on the final test

#### **Annual Refresher:**

After completing the full course once, a 15-minute refresher and retest is required each year to stay current.

#### **Transition from Previous YPT:**

If you've already completed Youth Protection Training (YPT), your certification remains valid.

If you took the prior YPT training, expiration is "One year from when the new training launched - at the latest. However - there is new material in the SYT which could genuinely save the life of a youth - inside or outside of Scouting."

**Why This Matters:**

Youth protection is at the heart of everything we do. This updated training reinforces a culture of active supervision, situational awareness, and safety, ensuring we're all equipped to help keep our Scouts safe.

**Hazardous Weather Training:**

Hazardous Weather is now a required training, and all adults should renew or take this training as soon as they are able. It is available online 24/7 in [my.scouting.org](https://my.scouting.org). In an effort to provide as safe of a program as possible, please take or renew your training.

**Save the Dates:****Cub Scout Position-Specific Training:**

- **LOE/BALOO – Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation**

**Spring Courses:**

**Next Session:** Saturday, May 3, 2025, 7:00 am to Sunday, May 4, 2025, 11:00 am  
Camp Lewallen, Silva, MO

**Cost:** \$40

**Information & sign up:** <https://stlbsa.org/training/> -> SUPPLEMENTAL & OUTDOOR SKILLS -> BALOO

**Scouts BSA Position-Specific Training:**

- **Fall Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills:**

**When:** TBD

**Where:** Beaumont Scout Reservation

**Cost:** TBD

More information coming soon.

**If your schedule does not let you attend training, LET US KNOW. We can schedule training on dates that work for YOU!!**

**Save the Dates:****NYLT Courses for 2025:**

Attending NYLT gives youth an edge. Not just Scouting, but in school, work, sports and life. Can you meet the challenge? Want to understand how NYLT can help your youth and your units? Questions about NYLT? Sign Up for one of the free sessions we are offering, "Why Wood Badge? Why National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)? Two Sides of Same Leadership Coin" at <https://scoutingevent.com/312-trainingwoodbadgenylt>.

NYLT is a six-day course that delivers training in a troop and patrol outdoor setting with an emphasis on the immediate application of learning in a fun environment. Interconnecting concepts and work processes are introduced early, built upon, and aided by the use of memory aids, which allows participants to understand and employ leadership skills much faster. Attending NYLT prepares Scouts for Leadership in the Troop and beyond.

**2025 Course dates:**

- June 15-21 – Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- June 22-28– Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- July 13-19– Camp Sakima, S-F Scout Ranch
- August 8-10 and August 15-17 – Camp Warren Levis (weekend course, both weekends required)

**Sign up NOW!**

**Registration for NYLT courses are now open:** <https://stlbsa.org/training/nylt/>

**Wood Badge Courses for 2025:**

Wood Badge is advanced training for adult leaders in Scouting designed to enhance contemporary leadership skills and develop more effective Scouters. The Wood Badge program gives participants a greater understanding of Scouting aims and methods while developing true Scout Spirit. It is anticipated that all people who complete Wood Badge training will continue to work actively in the Scouting program to further the aims and methods of Scouting.

Want to understand how Wood Badge can help you, your youth and your units? Questions about Wood Badge? Sign Up for one of the free sessions we are offering, "Why Wood Badge? Why National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)? Two Sides of Same Leadership Coin" at <https://scoutingevent.com/312-trainingwoodbadgenylt>.

## Wood Badge Fall 2025 Course:

**When:** September 26-28, 2025 AND October 11-12, 2025 (Both weekends required)

**Where:** Camp Warren Levis

Sign up coming Spring **2025**

For more information, contact Course Director Keith Mueller | [sm-fall2025@gmail.com](mailto:sm-fall2025@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP:

Our New Horizons District Membership Chair is Chris Kadel. Chris may be reached at [cbkadel@outlook.com](mailto:cbkadel@outlook.com) or text 314.800.7039

Our council is again sponsoring a peer-to-peer Scouts BSA Recruitment Campaign, with incentives for youth who recruit friends and new youth who join. Incentives include:

- 1 free 2025 summer camp. Random drawing – all new scouts recruited are entered into the drawing to win.
- All newly recruited scouts receive \$50 trading post credit when they sign up for camp. The scout who recruited them receives a \$25 credit.
- 1 parent of all newly recruited scouts bsa youth may attend summer camp for free
- Please note, these are only for new Scouts BSA youth – these do not apply to AOL crossovers

To earn credit for incentives, please fill out this form: <https://247scouting.com/forms/312-scoutsBSA>

All troops are encouraged to host a recruiting event this spring, such as a Webelos/AOL welcome, open house, bring a friend event, etc. Our district professionals can help provide resources to promote these events.

## School Nights to Join Scouting:

Units should start planning their School Night to Join Scouting events early. Reach out to Nick Prainito in August for flyers that your unit can distribute. More information will be available at the August Roundtables. Below are the dates for the different areas withing the New Horizons District (If you unit uses a different date, let Nick know):

- **Kirkwood / Webster Groves / Brentwood School Districts:** August 28, 2025
- **Parkway School District:** September 4, 2025
- **Rockwood School District / Private Schools:** September 11, 2025

## Membership fees

- \$85/yr. for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting participants (\$5 increase)
- \$65/yr. for all adult volunteers (\$5 increase)
- \$30/yr. for Scoutreach (No change in fee)
- \$25/yr. for Merit Badge Counselors (No change in fee - applies only to MB Counselors not already registered as leaders)
- \$50/yr. for Exploring participants Youth & Adults (No change in fee)
- \$100/yr. unit renewal/affiliation fee (No change in fee)
- \$15/yr. for Scout Life magazine (No change in fee)
- Excludes Council Program Fees

## For further information or clarification, please contact any of the following:

- Your Unit Commissioner
- Joe Bradley, District Commissioner ([joseph.bradley@icloud.com](mailto:joseph.bradley@icloud.com))
- Nick Prainito, District Executive ([Nicholas.Prainito@scouting.org](mailto:Nicholas.Prainito@scouting.org))

## CAMPING:

All the information about District Camping, Order of the Arrow Camping, Venturing Camping, Cub Scout Day Camps, and Summer Camp is in one spot on the New Horizons Website:

<https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-camping/?654651>

### **UPCOMING DISTRICT CAMPOREES & CAMPING EVENTS:**

#### **Why should a Pack, Troop, Crew, or Ship go to a District Camporee?**

- Makes the outing easier for Units Leaders. The activities are already planned and run by the Camporee Committee.
- Participants can see other Units. They can discuss ideas and see how others run an outing.
- Provides Leadership opportunities for Scouts. Either on Camporee staff or providing leadership in their own Unit at Camporee.
- Promotes Scouts BSA (Troops) to Cub Scouts (Packs) by the Cub Scouts being involved in a camporee with Troops.
- Provides activities that many Units could not provide for their Scouts on their own.

### **2025 Fall Camporee:**

**October 17 - 19, 2025**

**Beaumont Scout Reservation**

Details will be posted as we get closer to this event.

**Scouts** - want to have some fun and go camping? Help organize the District Camporees. These outings are planned and run by Scouts throughout the District. It's fun, you learn invaluable leadership skills, and you don't have to cook your meals or clean up.

Contact Mike Hulsizer at [Hulsizer@webster.edu](mailto:Hulsizer@webster.edu)

## ORDER OF THE ARROW

### **2024-2025 New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter Officers & Advisors:**

Chapter Chief	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chief	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chief	Secretary	Chapter Advisor	Associate Advisors:
SYDNEY	LEO	RYAN	AJ	GREG CALDWELL	Elaine Caldwell – 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice
THURMOND	BYRNE	THIEN	STEWART		Declan Hennessy – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice
					Joe Attea - Secretary

### **New Horizons Order of the Arrow Chapter News:**

You can also follow us on social media. You can follow us on **Twitter:** @NewHorizonsOA, **Instagram:** nhchapteroa, **Facebook:** New Horizons Order of the Arrow.

### **2025 Shawnee Lodge Dues:**

As of now, the cost of dues, set by the Lodge Executive Committee, will be \$12 for 2025. This price must be paid by every member that would like to stay active. **Please pay your dues here:** <https://shawneelodge.org/register/>

### **Save the Dates:**

Are you tweaking your troop calendar? Don't forget watch for Order of the Arrow Events here:

<https://shawneelodge.org/>

### **Arrowmen Opportunities:**

The Chapter is also looking for ceremonialists. This is a great way to become more comfortable with public speaking and an excellent way to better understand the traditions of the Order of the Arrow. Interested scouts can reach out to Declan Hennessy at [declanhennessy@gmail.com](mailto:declanhennessy@gmail.com).

Shawnee Lodge will be hosting the **2025 G7 Section Conclave** September 27-29, 2025 at Beaumont. We will need all hands-on deck to make this a great event, so save the date!

## VENTURING & SEA SCOUTING:

### 2024-2025 New Horizons Venturing Officers:

**President**  
DRAKE KELLEY

**VP of Administration**  
JAKE EDLER

**VP of Program**  
MILO KARLEN

**VP of Communication**  
(TBD)

**VSOA Advisor**  
DENNIS DELANEY

[djdelaney55@gmail.com](mailto:djdelaney55@gmail.com)

**Crew Advisors and youth:** Please attend the **Roundtable** (see above under “SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS”) and please encourage other youth in your Crew to attend.

### EVENTS:

#### **Swift’s Big Kickoff:**

- May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025
- Join in the fun as we kick off the summer at Swift! The day kicks off with improving our favorite summer camp. After some meaningful projects we’ll enjoy some of the fun of Swift Base and have a party all our own. Best yet, this is a free event. Watch here for more information: <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar/>

#### **Swift Base:**

Swift is full of adventure every week: Rock Climbing, High/Low Ropes Challenge Course, Water Skiing, Mountain Biking, STEM Activities, Mountain Boarding, Tubing and Rappelling. Join other Venturers, Sea Scouts, and older Scouts for a week of High Adventure fun and exciting evening programs.

- June 15<sup>th</sup> – June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 – Venturing Focus
- June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 3<sup>rd</sup> or July 6<sup>th</sup> – Sea Scout Focus

Each week has a different focus, but all are welcome. Individual sign ups, too!

For more information, visit <https://stlbsa.org/camps/venturing-summer-camp/>

### SAVE THE DATE:

- 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fall Fun Rally:
- September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 at Beaumont Scout Reservation
- Join several hundred Venturers, Explorers, Sea Scouts and Older Scouts and advisors for an event filled weekend with more than 100 activities, training, demonstrations, and competitions. This event, put on by the Greater St. Louis Scouting’s VSOA is a unique event drawing participants from many Scouting America Councils in more that a dozen staes!
- This year’s activities include some of your favorites such as Mud Cave, Mountain Man Village, Climbing Activites, Crate Statcking, and the STEM Villiage, and many many more great activites palned by our Venturing and Sea Scout Officer’s Association. More information: <https://stlbsa.org/venturing-calendar>

Follow us on **Facebook** at “New Horizons District Venturing” and **Instagram** at “NH\_Venturing”

## DISTRICT CONTACTS/CALENDAR:

### **New Horizons District Executives:**

Your district professionals are here to help!

**Ben Brennecke**, Field Director will be serving New Horizons, and will be filling in while the New Horizons District Director role is vacant. He can be reached at [Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org](mailto:Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org) and 314.256.3092.

#### **District Director:**

Vacant - contact Ben Brennecke, [Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org](mailto:Ben.Brennecke@scouting.org)

For units in the boundaries of Rockwood, Kirkwood, and Valley Park school districts

#### **District Executive:**

Nick Prainito, [nicholas.prainito@scouting.org](mailto:nicholas.prainito@scouting.org)

For packs in the boundaries of Parkway, Webster Groves, and Brentwood school districts

### **The New Horizons District Calendars are available here:**

<https://stlbsa.org/find-your-district/new-horizons-district/new-horizons-information/>

Expand the blue box “NEW HORIZONS DISTRICT CALENDARS”